

REMARKS

The allowance of Claims 9-11 is noted with appreciation.

New Claim 12 is presented.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C.102(e) as being anticipated by Tanno. The rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons (1)-(5) set forth below.

(1) Tanno Does Not Disclose Capturing A Series Of Images From A Medium Containing A Series Of Images:

The present invention relates to a camera for capturing images from photographic negatives, and specifically capturing images from a series of images on a continuous roll of photographic negatives. This feature is established in Claims 1 and 6 by the phrase "capturing a series of digital images from a medium containing a series of visible images."

Tanno clearly shows original 410 as a single medium sheet with a single image.

(2) Tanno Does Not Disclose Means For Encoding The Media For Identification Of Each Of The Images:

The preferred embodiment of the present invention provides an encoding station 12 at which individual punch elements are forced through the film surface. During initial processing, the edge of each frame is detected and provided with a discrete punch code to correlate and identify each frame of the roll. This feature is established in Claim 1 by the phrase "means for encoding said media for identification of each of said series of visible images." The feature is established in Claim 6 by the phrase "encoding said media for identification of each of said series of visible images."

According to the Office Action, Tanno makes provision for encoding the media in column 10, lines 53-64. Reviewing that section in Tanno, Applicant's attorney finds only a description of placing a close-up lens in the camera's optical path when the camera is turned toward the media platen and for removing the close-up lens from the optical path when the camera is tilted to view a distant object. There does not appear to be any mention of encoding the media.

(3) Tanno Does Not Disclose Positioning The Camera Under The Control Of A Computer:

Tanno discloses the use of an operator-controlled switch or a remote control to pan the camera. While the Office Action refers to "a computer 212," the reference numeral 212 designates a terminal system used by one of two conference participants. There is no disclosure of a computer used to control the selective position of the camera as required by Claims 1 and 6.

(4) Tanno Does Not Disclose Storing Information Regarding The Positioning Of The Camera:

In the illustrated embodiment of the present invention, an operator can evaluate an image and correct for color balance, subject defects, etc. The image, together with its identifying code, camera position, and associated edits is stored in memory. When the film roll is again loaded, this stored data is used to insure proper re-registration of the film and to reposition the camera in the precise position established during the original editing step.

This feature is found in Claim 1 by the phrase “means for storing information regarding said positioning of said camera as digital data.” The feature is established in Claim 6 by the phrase “storing information regarding said positioning as digital data.”

The Office Action points to elements 228 and 100 and further notes col. 7, lines 19-25 and 44-4 and col. 18, lines 22-23 and 33-39 as meeting this limitation. In fact, numeral 228 designates a controlling device with no disclosed storage capability. Nor is element 100 capable of data storage. Similarly, the passages pointed out in the Office Action are silent with regard to data storage.

(5) Tanno Does Not Disclose Means for selectively positioning the camera as set forth in Claims 2-4:

As the operator of the preferred embodiment is viewing the image for color balance, defects, skin blemishes, etc., the operator can position the camera in both the Y and the Z axes, and can rotate the camera about its central optical axis R.

In Tanno, camera part 111 is incapable of translation in the X or Y direction. According to the specification, the “imaging part is turnably secured to the support member in such a manner that an optical axis of the imaging part draws a circular locus” (col. 2, lines 56-58). In referring to FIG. 3, Tanno states that motor 102 may be a zooming motor, an auto focus motor, an iris motor, a motor for driving rollers 114 and 115, and a motor for driving camera part 111 to cause it to perform a turning motion (col. 4, line 65 to col. 4, line). Later in the Tanno specification, FIG. 9 is described as showing a “TV camera 317 supported on a panhead 318 for turning motion in the horizontal and vertical directions, and is operated in the direction of panning or tilting.” There is no description of a motor for causing camera part 111 to translate in either the X or the Y direction.

Regarding Claim 2, the Office Action points to rollers 114 and 115 for positioning the camera, but in fact rollers 114 and 115 position the document and do not position the camera.

Regarding Claim 3, the Office Action notes that the camera is positioned in relation to the Z-axis by the vertical portion of arm 112. Although this is true, the claim does not call for the camera to be positioned in relation to the Z-axis. Rather, the claim calls for "positioning" the camera in relation to the Z-axis. Thus, the claim requires the ability for the camera to move, and the vertical portion of Tanno's arm 112 does not provide this ability.

Regarding Claim 4, the Office Action points to rollers 114 and 115 for positioning the camera, but in fact rollers 114 and 115 position the document. They do not position the camera.

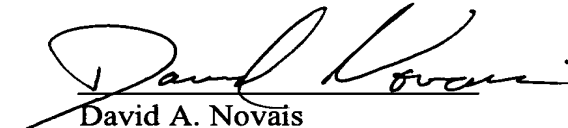
With regard to Claim 5, the Office Action points to zoom motor 102 of Tanno as providing focus adjustment. Zooming is not the same as focusing. One can zoom a fixed-focus lens.

With regard to Claim 7, the Office Action suggests that Tanno's mechanism for inhibiting a remote station from operating the camera is the same as the claimed step of editing a captured image. Preventing the capture of an image is not the same as editing the image after capture and storage.

Claim 8 depends from Claim 6 and is patentable for at least the same reasons as Claim 6.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is submitted that the inventions defined by each of the pending claims are patentable, and a favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.